

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please re-write the claims as follows:

- 1    1. (Previously Presented) A method for establishing identity in a file system, comprising:
  - 2       receiving a file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the request received by a proxy;
  - 3       forwarding the request from the proxy to a file server;
  - 4       returning a reply associated with the file request from the file server to the proxy;
  - 5       inserting, by the proxy, metadata into the file handle; and
  - 6       sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle
  - 7       to the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indicated file.
  
- 1    2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - 2       using the metadata in the file handles for any of eliminating a need for the proxy
  - 3       to generate additional requests to the server to establish file identity, and for completing
  - 4       client requests.

- 1       3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - 2           encoding metadata in a form of a session key into the file handle, the session key
  - 3           expiring after a predetermined amount of time.
- 1       4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - 2           using an NFS file system as the file system.
- 1       5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - 2           using a stateless protocol by the file system.
- 1       6-29. (Cancelled).
- 1       30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - 2           sending a second another file request by the client to the server;
  - 3           including the metadata in a further file handle sent with the second another re-
  - 4           quest;
  - 5           receiving the a second another request by the proxy;
  - 6           identifying, in response to the metadata, the client as permitted to submit the sec-
  - 7           ond another file request;
  - 8           sending the second another request to the file server and not sending the meta-
  - 9           data with the second another file handle to the file server; and

10 receiving by the proxy the further reply from the file server, and sending by the  
11 proxy the further reply to the client.

1 31. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing identity in a file system, comprising:  
2

3 receiving a first file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the first file  
4 request received by a proxy;

5 forwarding the first file request from the proxy to a file server;

6 returning a reply associated with the first file request from the file server to the  
7 proxy;

8 inserting, by the proxy, metadata into the file handle;

9 sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle  
10 to the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client as having a  
11 permission to access and the indicated file;

12 sending a second file request by the client to the server;

13 including the metadata in a second file handle sent with the second file request;

14 receiving the second file request by the proxy;

15 identifying, in response to the metadata, that the client has the permission as per-  
16 mitted to submit the second file request;

17 sending the second file request to the file server and not sending the metadata  
18 with the second file handle to the file server; and

19 receiving by the proxy a second reply from the file server, and sending by the  
20 proxy the second reply to the client.

1 32. (Previously Presented) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, comprising:  
2 ing:

3 a proxy to receive a file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to forward the request to a file server;  
4 the file server to return a reply associated with the file request to the proxy;  
5 the proxy to insert metadata into the file handle; and  
6 the proxy to send the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle to  
7 the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indicated file.

1 33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as in claim 32, further comprising:

2 the client to send a second another file request to the server, the client to include  
3 the metadata in the second a further file handle sent with the second another request;  
4 the proxy to receive the second another request, the proxy to identify, in response to the metadata, the client as permitted to submit the second another file request, and the  
5 proxy to send the second another request to the file server and not to send the metadata  
6 with the second another file handle to the file server; and  
7 the proxy to receive a second further reply from the file server, and the proxy to  
8 send the second further reply to the client.

- 1        34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:
  - 2              the proxy to use the metadata in the file handle received from the client to eliminate a need for additional communication with the file server to establish file identity.
- 1        35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:
  - 2              the proxy to encode the metadata in a form of a session key into the file handle,
  - 3              the session key expiring after a predetermined amount of time.
- 1        36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:
  - 2              an NFS file system used as the file system.
- 1        37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 32, further comprising:
  - 2              a stateless protocol used by the file system.
- 1        38. (Currently Amended) A computer readable memory media, comprising:
  - 2              said computer readable memory media containing instructions for execution on a processor for a method of establishing identity in a file system, the method having,
    - 4              receiving a file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the request received by a proxy;
    - 5              forwarding the request from the proxy to a file server;

7           returning a reply associated with the file request from the file server to the proxy;  
8           inserting, by the proxy, metadata into the file handle; and  
9           sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the metadata inserted in the file handle  
10          to the client, the metadata to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indi-  
11          cated file.

1       39. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing identity in a file system, compris-  
2       ing:

3           receiving a first file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the first file  
4       request received by a proxy;  
5           forwarding the first file request from the proxy to a file server;  
6           permitting granting a permission for the request to be acted upon by the file  
7       system in response to a predetermined protocol;  
8           returning a reply associated with the first file request from the file server to the  
9       proxy;  
10          inserting, by the proxy, a session key into the file handle; and  
11          sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the session key inserted in the file han-  
12          dle to the client, the session key to be used in further requests to identify the client and  
13          the indicated file [[;]] .

1       40. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:  
2           sending a second file request by the client to the server;

3       including the session key in a second file handle sent with the second file request;  
4       receiving the second file request by the proxy;  
5       identifying, in response to the session key, that the client has the permission as  
6       permitted to submit the second file request;  
7       sending the second file request to the file server and not sending the session key  
8       with the second file handle to the file server; and  
9       receiving by the proxy a second reply from the file server, and sending by the  
10      proxy the second reply to the client.

1       41. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:  
2           causing the session key to expire after a selected amount of time.

1       42. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:  
2           causing the session key to expire after a selected amount of usage.

1       43. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39, further comprising:  
2           using a NFS protocol as the predetermined protocol.

1       44. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 43 39, further comprising:  
2           using as the predetermined protocol a two way communication exchange between  
3       the proxy and the file server.

1    45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, comprising:  
2        ing:

- 3           a proxy to receive a file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to for-
- 4       ward the request to a file server;
- 5           the file server to return a reply associated with the file request to the proxy;
- 6           the proxy to insert a session key into the file handle; and
- 7           the proxy to send the file handle with the session key inserted in the file handle to
- 8       the client, the session key to be used in further requests to identify the client and the indi-
- 9       cated file.

1        46. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as in claim 45, further comprising:

2                the client to send a second ~~another~~ file request to the server, the client to include

3                the session key in a further file handle sent with the second ~~another~~ request;

4                the proxy to receive the second ~~another~~ request, the proxy to identify, in response

5                to the metadata, the client as having a permission ~~permitted~~ to submit the another file

6                request, and the proxy to send the second ~~another~~ request to the file server and not to

7                send the session key with the second ~~another~~ file handle to the file server; and

8                the proxy to receive a further reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the

9                further reply to the client.

1       47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2                  the proxy to use the metadata in the file handle received from the client to elimi-  
3                  nate a need for additional communication with the file server to establish file identity.

1       48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2                  the proxy to encode the metadata in a form of a session key into the file handle,  
3                  the session key expiring after a predetermined amount of time.

1       49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2                  an NFS file system used as the file system.

1       50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 45, further comprising:  
2                  a stateless protocol used by the file system.

1       51. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, comprising:  
2                  a proxy to receive a first file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to  
3                  forward the first file request to a file;  
4                  the file server to return a reply associated with the first file request to the proxy;  
5                  the proxy to insert a session key into a file handle;  
6                  the proxy to send the file handle with the session key inserted in the file handle to  
7                  the client, the session key to be used in a second file request to identify the client and the  
8                  indicated file;

9           the client to send a second file request to the server, the client to include the ses-  
10          sion key in a second file handle sent with the second file request;  
  
11          the proxy to receive the second file request, and the proxy to identify, in response  
12         to the session key, the client as having a permission permitted to submit the second file  
13         request, and the proxy to send the second file request to the file server and not to send the  
14         session key with the second file handle to the file server; and  
  
15          the proxy to receive a second reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the  
16         second reply to the client.

1        52. (Previously Presented) A method for establishing identity in a file system, compris-  
2        ing:  
  
3           receiving a first file request concerning an indicated file from a client, the first file  
4        request received by a proxy;  
  
5           forwarding the first file request from the proxy to a file server;  
  
6           permitting determining that the client has a permission to have the request to be  
7        acted upon by the file system in response to a predetermined protocol;  
  
8           returning a reply associated with the first file request from the file server to the  
9        proxy;  
  
10          inserting, by the proxy, a cryptographic information into the file handle;  
  
11          sending, by the proxy, the file handle with the cryptographic information inserted  
12        in the file handle to the client, the cryptographic information to be used in one or more  
13        further requests to identify the client and the indicated file.

- 1        53. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:
  - 2              sending a second file request by the client to the server;
  - 3              including the cryptographic information in a second file handle sent with the sec-
  - 4        ond file request;
  - 5              receiving the second file request by the proxy;
  - 6              identifying, in response to the cryptographic information, that the client has the
  - 7        permission as permitted to submit the second file request;
  - 8              sending the second file request to the file server and not sending the cryptographic
  - 9        information with the second file handle to the file server; and
  - 10          receiving by the proxy a second reply from the file server, and sending by the
  - 11        proxy the second reply to the client.
- 1        54. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:
  - 2              causing the cryptographic information to expire after a selected amount of time.
- 1        55. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:
  - 2              causing the cryptographic information to expire after a selected amount of usage.
- 1        56. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:
  - 2              using a NFS protocol as the predetermined protocol.

1       57. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52, further comprising:  
2                 using as the predetermined protocol a two way communication exchange between  
3                 the proxy and the file server.

1       58. (Previously Presented) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, comprising:  
2                 

3                 a proxy to receive a file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to forward the request to a file server;  
4                 the file server to return a reply associated with the file request to the proxy;  
5                 the proxy to insert a cryptographic information into the file handle; and  
6                 the proxy to send the file handle with the cryptographic information inserted in  
7                 the file handle to the client, the cryptographic information to be used in further requests  
8                 to identify the client and the indicated file.

1       59. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as in claim 58, further comprising:

2                 the client to send a second ~~another~~ file request to the server, the client to include  
3                 the cryptographic information in a second ~~further~~ file handle sent with the second ~~an-~~  
4                 ~~other~~ request;  
5                 the proxy to receive the second ~~another~~ request, the proxy to identify, in re-  
6                 sponse to the metadata, the client as having a permission ~~permitted~~ to submit the second  
7                 ~~another~~ file request, and the proxy to send the second ~~another~~ request to the file server

8 and not to send the cryptographic information with the second ~~another~~ file handle to the  
9 file server; and

10 the proxy to receive a further reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the  
11 further reply to the client.

1 60. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 the proxy to use the metadata in the file handle received from the client to elimi-  
3 nate a need for additional communication with the file server to establish file identity.

1 61. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 the proxy to encode the metadata in a form of a cryptographic information into the  
3 file handle, the cryptographic information expiring after a predetermined amount of time.

1 62. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 an NFS file system used as the file system.

1 63. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 58, further comprising:

2 a stateless protocol used by the file system.

1 64. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to establish identity in a file system, comprising:

2 a proxy to receive a first file request sent by a client to a file system, the proxy to  
3 forward the first file request to a file server;

4           the file server to return a reply associated with the first file request to the proxy;

5           the proxy to insert a cryptographic information into a file handle;

6           the proxy to send the file handle with the cryptographic information inserted in

7        the file handle to the client, the cryptographic information to be used in a second file re-

8        quest to identify the client and the indicated file;

9           the client to send a second file request to the server, the client to include the cryp-

10        tographic information in a second file handle sent with the second file request;

11           the proxy to receive the second file request, and the proxy to identify, in response

12        to the cryptographic information, the client as having a permission permitted to submit

13        the second file request, and the proxy to send the second file request to the file server and

14        not to send the cryptographic information with the second file handle to the file server;

15        and

16           the proxy to receive a second reply from the file server, and the proxy to send the

17        second reply to the client.